

M I N U T E S

PRINCIPAL STAFF MEETING Monday, April 17, 2006

Present:	Ron Hilliard	Ron Bricker
	Bill O'Donnell	Greg Kist
	Rick Heaslip	Greg Stone
	Dick Judy	Pat Bowen
	Louis Aspey	Truman Wolfe
	Debbie Chase	Diana Doerr

The meeting was called to order by Dick Judy at 8:00 am.

TRUMAN WOLFE

Working on a letter for Multiflora Rose Program sign-ups should be ready today.

Envirothon scheduled for April 27, 2006 at Jackson Mill.

PAT BOWEN

NRCS DC training for the Multiflora Rose Program is scheduled for today at 10:00 a.m.

GREG STONE

Multiflora Rose Program training for the South Area is scheduled for Wednesday, April 19, 2006.

Dunlop Creek Workgroup meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2006.

GREG KIST

Multiflora Rose Program training for the West Area is scheduled for Tuesday, April 18, 2006.

Greg also reported on Kurt Simon's appointment in Washington and let the group know there is still a need for Envirothon volunteers.

DICK JUDY

Attending the Little Whitstick Project Sponsor meeting today, April 17, 2006 with Louis.

Elkwater Fork Construction Contract was awarded in the amount of \$31 million. News article are in the Charleston Gazette and the Elkins newspaper. Dick asked Diana to post these links on the WV NRCS Web Page in the absence of Carol Lagodich.

RICK HEASLIP

The Conservation Nutrient Management Plan for Gary Deeds is in and will be reviewed this week by my staff.

LOUIS ASPEY

A Lost River review meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2006 here at the State Office. The group will be reviewing the second draft of the Supplemental Plan and EIS and forwarding it to the Water Management Center by May 1st. No Lost River tele-conference today.

Dunlop Creek Workgroup meeting on April 21, 2006.

DEBBIE CHASE

Steve Carpenter along with other State Office and field staff will be out this week for Soils Week, with approximately 32 participants.

BILL O'DONNELL

An email with an attachment was sent asking each of you to record work products, skills necessary, positions necessary and organization needed to carry out functions at the field, area, and state office levels and return to me by April 14th. As of this morning only Greg Stone had responded. Greg Kist said he had sent his in also.

RON HILLIARD

All EQIP Cost Lists are approved except for Southern CD and sent to FO's last week. Asked Greg Stone to review Southern CD's Cost List and get back to me as soon as possible.

AMA Cost List will be out next week.

At the WVCA quarterly meeting the Multiflora Rose joint agreement with NRCS and WVCA was signed. NRCS efforts on Multiflora Rose contracts are to be the same as EQIP Contracts.

We are working with Commissioner Douglass in regard to the Bird Flu.

National Leadership Team Meeting Highlights are as follows:

- Reviewed the need for consistency in disaster programs. A disaster such as the Katrina event, not all agencies were on the same page and need to have joint plans and etc.
- The Chief is looking at the number of offices, people, places and supplies. He also talked about a shortage of staff in other areas and the possibility of direct reassignments to get people where they are needed.
- Over the next few years we will see a decrease in discretionary funds with an increase in Mandatory funds.
 - 2007- 10% decrease in all programs & CTA
 - 2008- 8% decrease in all programs & CTA

- **A 10% increase for WV in WHIP.**
- **NRCS Strategic Plan is now available, copies will be sent to each of the Principal Staff and FO's as soon as we receive them.**

Other states took a bigger hit than WV. We are progressing very well and he thanked everyone for the efforts put forth to help with the budget deficit.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting Monday, May 1, 2006.